

1. An adaptable filtration apparatus for collecting particulate in liquid or gas comprising:

a filtration cassette having an inlet port, a body, and an outlet port;

a filtration medium; and

5 a removable restrictor plate having a portal for localizing the utilized area of a filter medium.

2. The adaptable filtration apparatus in Claim 1 wherein the adaptable filtration apparatus operates in a first and second mode,

10 said first mode utilizes substantially all of the surface area of the filter medium; and

said second mode incorporates said restrictor plate to localize particles to a portion of the filter medium.

15 3. The adaptable filtration apparatus in Claim 1 wherein the restrictor plate and the filtration medium abut one another for localizing the utilized area of a filter medium.

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4. The adaptable filtration apparatus in Claim 1 wherein the restrictor plate is incorporated into the body of the filtration cassette.

5. The adaptable filtration apparatus in Claim 1 wherein the restrictor plate includes more than one portal.

6. The adaptable filtration apparatus in Claim 1 wherein the restrictor plate is characterized by replicate portals.

7. The adaptable filtration apparatus in Claim 1 wherein the portal is tailored for the focal view of a microscope.

10 8. The adaptable filtration apparatus in Claim 7 wherein the portal is substantially rectangular and has dimensions between 1 - 5 mm x 10 - 20 mm.

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9. A method for limiting particles to a localized area of filter medium comprising the steps of:

- positioning a restrictor plate so that it abuts and is anterior to a filter medium in relation to particle exposure to direct particles to a localized area of the filter medium;
- filtering a gas or liquid through the filter medium; and
- analyzing the localized area of the filter medium.

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